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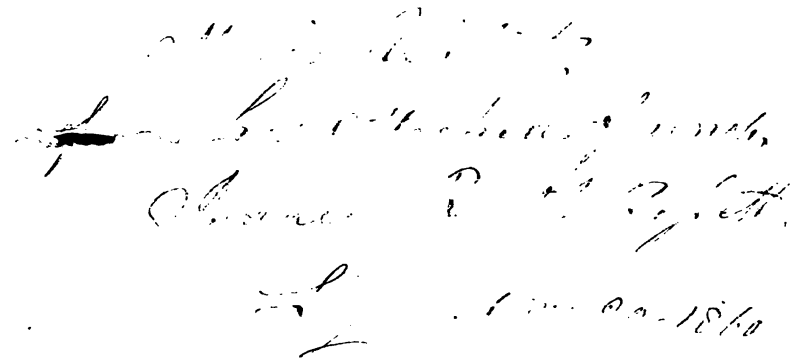

MEMOIR

OF

HANNAH BASSETT,

WITH EXTRACTS

FROM HER DIARY.

LYNN:
W. W. KELLOGG, PRINTER,
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PREFACE.

When those are removed from us, who by their bright example and humble walk in the way of self-denial, have shed an influence around them for good, it is interesting and encouraging to survivors, to trace the path in which they were led, and to know something of the trials, exercises, and baptisms, through which it was their lot to pass. We believe, therefore, that no apology will be needed in offering this small volume concerning our dear departed one, to the perusal of those whom she loved.

It was not known to any of her nearest connections, until after her decease, that she kept any Diary; and such was her modest and retiring disposition, it would doubtless have been very far from her wish, that it should be made public. Yet many of her friends having expressed a desire to have access thereto, it is apprehended that it

may be best, that a portion of its contents should be made known. With this view, and with a hope that it may tend to stimulate the humble christian traveler to "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," the following has been prepared for circulation among her friends.

LYNN, 4th mo., 1860.

MEMOIR.

HANNAH BASSETT was the daughter of Isaac and Ruth Bassett, of Lynn, Mass., and was born on the 10th day of 10th month, 1815.

From memoranda which she has left, and from letters written to her friends, and in view of the solidity of her deportment, it is evident that she was in early life, made acquainted with the tendering visitations of Divine Love, and was convinced of the truth of the declaration, that "except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God,"—and it is believed she was favored to experience that change of heart which she felt to be necessary to prepare her for an inheritance among the sanctified.

She was very conscientious in all her movements, and her concern to walk in the fear of the

Lord and to become entirely dedicated to His will was increasingly manifest as she advanced in years. It may truly be said of her, that she was a dutiful and obedient child and an affectionate sister; and being naturally of a social and cheerful disposition and modest and amiable in her manners, she was very much beloved in the circle in which she moved.

Ministers of the gospel and other valued Friends being frequently guests at her father's house, she was particularly interested in their company, and took great pleasure in administering to their comforts and wants. The company and counsel of these Friends, and the care and concern of her parents to train up their children in the way they should go, were, it is believed, blessed to her.

Many were the baptisms through which she was led, and many the trials and conflicts which awaited her, the enemy often tempting her to give way to discouragement, and, as we apprehend, insinuating to her mind, that notwithstanding she had been in good measure favored to

yield herself up to her Heavenly Father, yet, in consequence of unfaithfulness and of short-comings, her condition was beyond hope. But He who regardeth the upright in heart, was near, to preserve her from giving way to despondency, and when the enemy came in as a flood, she was, through mercy, strengthened to raise up a standard against him.

Her constitution was very feeble and delicate, and for many years she was much of an invalid, it being often the case that she was confined to the house and to her chamber by illness. But there is cause to believe that these afflictions tended to wean her from the world, and strengthened her to set her affections upon things above —those things which make for peace.

The writings which she left are confined chiefly to subjects of a religious character, the exercises of her mind occupying the most prominent place therein. Yet it should not hence be inferred that she did not appreciate the beneficence of her Heavenly Father, as manifest in all the works of His hand. She much enjoyed cheerful society,

especially that of children, whom she often joined in their innocent sports, imparting to them instruction whilst she contributed to their enjoyment. She loved the sublime and the beautiful in nature. Mountain and ocean scenery had peculiar charms for her. Flowers were also her delight, and when her health would admit, the cultivation thereof was one of her favorite employments. Her fondness for them was conspicuous in the last hours of her life. A day or two previous to her death, some which were very beautiful being presented to her, on receiving them, she exclaimed, with unusual gratitude animating her countenance, "These are Thy glorious works Parent of good." And again, on their being brought to her, she said, "My Father made them all."

Believing that usefulness may result from giving publicity to some of the exercises of her mind, the following extracts are made from her memoranda.

Under date of 10th month, 1835, we find the following—

I have just passed my 20th year, and I ask myself the question, what advancement has been made in the blessed work of religion? I fear none at all. I am sensible of being taken up too much with the hindering things of this world, and that I am far, very far from the right way. It is my desire that I may be more watchful, and ponder well the paths of my feet, and endeavor to live near the blessed truth as it is in Jesus. I am an unworthy child, and have not been sufficiently thankful for the many favors bestowed upon me. If I am able to note down at times my thoughts and feelings in regard to my getting along, it may be useful to me, and be a means of stimulating me to do right.

12 mo. This has been a trying day; a dearly beloved niece has been called to bid farewell to all earthly scenes, and has, no doubt, entered those heavenly mansions "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." At such moments as these we are reminded that we are truly frail creatures and may have to leave all that is near and dear sooner than we are aware, and join those who have gone before; and, if we are faithful through life, the promise is, that we shall in the end hear the joyful lan-

guage of "well done." Afflictions are good for us and tend to wean us from the things of the world. "He afflicteth not willingly." May we look to Him for support.

At the funeral of this dear child, ——— spoke in a very feeling and affecting manner, particularly to the parents. He said he believed it had often been the earnest petition of those who were now bereft of a tender charge, that, if it were possible, "this cup might pass." But as Providence had ordered it otherwise, he desired that they might be resigned to the dispensation, and say, "not my will, but thine, O Lord, be done." Oh, that we may all be prepared to meet the dear child where parting is no more.

1 mo., 1st, 1836. True it is that time flies swiftly; this is the commencement of a new year; quickly indeed has the last one passed away, and if the time has been misspent it is too late to recall it now. I feel a fear that, as respects myself, much of it has not been spent properly. Oh, may I begin with the year and form resolutions not to be broken, that I may spend my time rightly and in such a way as will afford peace of mind.

1 mo., 18th. While spending so much time

in preparing things necessary for this life, it would be well if we were more concerned to seek for that spiritual food which can alone nourish up the soul unto everlasting life.

1 mo., 19th. Attended our Quarterly Meeting at Salem, which was an interesting season. We were favored with several instructive communications. To the young particularly, much excellent advice was extended respecting the attendance of our meetings for worship. We were also reminded of our many privileges and entreated to prize them. My mind was more abstracted from outward things in meeting than is sometimes the case, for which I felt thankful. The praise belongeth to Him whom we ought to serve. Oh, that strength and ability may be given to perform acceptable worship in spirit and in truth.

22d. First day. Tried with drowsiness in meeting this morning, but enabled in great measure to overcome it this afternoon and to get into a quiet state of mind. My attention was arrested with these words, "Out of thine own mouth will I condemn thee, thou wicked and slothful servant." I felt that it must apply to my own state, for surely what am I, but a weak and sinful child. All our actions, whether good

or evil, are known to Him who seeth in secret, and He will judge us according to the deeds done in the body. May I seek Him while He is to be found, and call upon Him while He is near.

24th. This day indulged in unpleasant feelings in regard to something of a trifling nature. I hope to be preserved therefrom in future. How necessary to be constantly on the watch against the temptations of the evil one.

1 mo., 29th. Had the company of our dear friends, —— and —— at meeting this morning, and —— was there this afternoon. Much counsel was imparted to all, and the young were particularly addressed by —— in a very weighty and feeling manner. I hope it may not be forgotten. How grateful should we be for favors granted us.

30th. Yesterday heard of the death of a young friend at Dover, and to-day, of the decease of one here. Surely we are often reminded of the uncertainty of time, and that here we have no continuing city.

2 mo., 1st. Having made arrangements for attending Providence Quarterly Meeting, I am now prevented from going by my dear mother's illness. How frequently it is the case, when an-

ticipating enjoyment here, that something occurs to prevent our realizing it. These things should teach us not to plan for the future. The present only is ours.

2 mo., 12th. There is great want of more retirement of spirit. This day my attention has been too much taken up with outward objects, while at meeting. I have often been deeply tried on this account. Oh, that my will was brought more into subjection to the Divine Will, and the attention more turned towards things of a higher nature.

2 mo., 13th. How often have I had to lament giving way to unpleasant feelings about trifling matters. How careful should we be not to give offence in any way. It is indeed important that we keep strictly on the watch, that we neither say nor do any harm. Often have I had to implore forgiveness of Him who seeth in secret, for wrong things done in an unguarded moment. What weak creatures we are.

15th. Oh, that my proud heart may be humbled and brought down. This has been my desire this day. My mind has been filled with other guests than that of the beloved of souls.

It is the humble He will teach of His ways, and the meek He will guide in judgment.

This day I have been much troubled with drowsiness in meeting, although I tried to overcome it. May my whole dependance be upon Him who alone can give strength to overcome all the temptations of the evil one, who is ever ready to draw unstable minds from the source and fountain of all good.

19th. The meeting this afternoon was particularly solemn to my feelings. I do n't know when I have attended one more so. Since meeting, heard of the decease of a young friend at Portland,—the second that has been removed from one family within a few weeks. Afflictions are surely the lot of all. How often are we reminded of the shortness of our stay here. "Friend after friend departs! Who hath not lost a friend?" I feel for the afflicted and bereaved family, but He who wounds can heal.

22d. I feel indeed that we are frail creatures, helpless and insufficient of ourselves to do any good thing. This language came before the view of my mind while at meeting—"Enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret,and thy Father which

seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." May I be enabled to attend to this admonition, and seek to know Him, and pray to Him who seeth in secret, endeavoring quietly to wait and patiently to hope. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

3 mo., 1st. I spoke, as I am too liable to do, in an improper manner to my sister. Oh, that I may be more watchful in future; it always causes me so much suffering when I do anything to hurt another's feelings. May I be preserved therefrom.

9th. "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation." This command of our blessed Lord has often been brought to my mind to-day. Well would it be for me if I were to attend to it more fully.

13th. The aspect of things in our society, at the present time, is truly discouraging. I know not what will be the end of so much commotion and excitement. I have desired that He who knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust, would direct our course aright. He only can lead in a safe path.

14th. My dear mother suddenly taken very ill, and seeing her sufferings has very much affect-

ed my feelings. I am anxious as to how it may terminate. May it please Him who ordereth all things aright, and dispenses trials and afflictions for our good, to restore her again to health; but may we be resigned to His will.

22d. We should be careful not to injure the reputation of others. There appears to be too much of a spirit of detraction indulged in; we ought not to speak evil of any one, and I am sensible that I have need to be guarded in this respect myself.

3 mo., 24th, 1837. My beloved mother, having been sick for some time past, has now nearly recovered, and I cannot express the gratitude I feel for this favor. I wish I was more worthy of the many blessings bestowed upon me. Unworthy indeed I am.

3 mo., 31st. What need there is of a daily concern to seek for the one thing needful. There is so much in the world to draw the attention from right things, that I really fear I never shall make that full surrender of the heart that is required. "Where the treasure is, there will the heart be also."

4 mo., 11th. There is too much looking for that without, which only is to be found within.

That inward teacher, the Divine Witness in the heart, is what must be waited for; this only can lead aright. If there is a seeking, there will be a finding that which is so much longed for. It is said, "the word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth and in thy heart."

4 mo., 23d. "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest; take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest to your souls." What encouragement. If there was only a willingness to bear the yoke of Christ which is easy, and to take up the cross, denying ourselves of that which gratifies the natural inclination, it would produce that peace of mind which this world cannot give nor take away.

5 mo., 3d. After sitting down in meeting, this language came into my mind,—"Despise not thou the chastenings of the Lord, neither faint when thou art rebuked of Him. For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every one whom He receiveth." I thought it an instructive passage. All our trials and afflictions should be received as from Him who doeth all things well, and "afflicteth not willingly."

7th. I was entirely free from drowsiness in

meeting to-day, which I consider a great favor. I was enabled to feel something so sweet and refreshing, like the presence of the Great Shepherd around and about us, that it was a time I hope long to remember. True it is, that such seasons are not at our command.

5mo., 12th. This has been an interesting day, a beloved sister having entered into the solemn covenant of marriage. I thought that, for such an occasion, a remarkable degree of stillness and solemnity was spread over the meeting. At the close, a much esteemed Friend appeared in supplication, which added to the solemnity of the occasion. We had a precious opportunity at home in the evening; much good counsel was imparted.

14th. I am truly unworthy of the many privileges I enjoy. Oh, that I were sufficiently grateful for them. This evening, had a sweet and comforting opportunity. Several dear friends were here, and there seemed such a precious feeling of love to abound, that the language appeared applicable—"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." A Friend remarked that something of the cementing influence of the Father's love was felt amongst us.

1 mo., 1838. Another year has swiftly passed away, and a new one has commenced. What changes have taken place during the time. Trials, afflictions, and disappointments have been our portion at times. With the new year, new mercies come. May I lift up the heart in gratitude to the giver of every good, and perfect gift for the unnumbered blessings bestowed upon me. Blessed surely am I, with the kindest and dearest parents, brothers and sisters, and all the comforts that need be desired in this life. And if the Lord sees meet to dispense afflictions of various kinds, it is for our good, and He knows what is best for us. May I endeavor to be more watchful and circumspect the present year, that, should I be permitted to see the close thereof, I may look back with peaceful feelings.

1 mo. The day of our Quarterly Meeting. A number of Friends, from other Quarters, were present, and much excellent counsel was imparted. I hope we may profit by it, and not let such seasons pass too lightly away. May we prize our many privileges. We truly have line upon line, precept upon precept; and what does it all avail? May it prove like bread cast upon the waters.

First day. We had the company of —— to-day, at our meeting, who appeared in testimony and in supplication in a powerful manner. Many things amongst us look discouraging. I have often said in my heart, to whom are we to look for example, there is so much deviation in regard to our testimonies, so much departing in little things. Our dependance must not be placed on man, but on Him who alone can help his people, who is strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present help in the needful time.

2 mo., 8th, 1838. Monthly Meeting to-day. How very difficult it seemed at meeting to get the mind settled into a quiet, waiting state. The enemy is ever ready to draw the attention from the true source and fountain of good to outward objects; and thus, the thoughts are not fixed upon Him who is to be worshipped in spirit and in truth.

I often feel lonely since my dear sister left us. Very near and dear to me was she, and a good example to us. She is now so far separated from us that I do feel it; but I must be resigned thereto, as it is no doubt for the best, and she is happily and comfortably fixed. Sometimes I feel sad, yet I have much to be thankful for, and must not complain.

12 mo., 10th. Had a good meeting to-day—the thoughts not so much wandering as at sometimes. I hope I may not give up striving, though weakness may abound. I was led to reflect upon the great importance of being faithful in the little that may be required. Faithfulness is indeed called for, and a willing mind to yield all up. What doth the Lord require of us, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly before him.

12 mo., 25th. To day we had the company of two Friends from Maine, at meeting, and the communication of ——— was to me impressive and affecting. The young were spoken to particularly, and warned against following the vain fashions and customs of the world, and against giving way in one little thing after another until we become entirely led away.

He spoke in a very solemn manner of the uncertainty of time, and he believed that with some the day's work was nearly over. The importance of being prepared for the great change was pressed upon us, and the need of having our lamps trimmed and burning. Near the close of the meeting, solemn supplication was offered.

9 mo., 1839. The past summer has been

marked with many peculiar favors, that call for gratitude to the Author of all our mercies. I note this down, that I may have it to recur to at a future period. He has been pleased to send amongst us many of His true ministers of the gospel. May their labors not be in vain in the Lord. In the 6th month, our dear friend John Warren was very lively in testimony, and in prayer at our meeting. We have also been favored with much of the company of our dear friend Daniel Wheeler, a truly humble, meek spirited man. His example is well worthy of imitation. In public, his words have been few and savory, fitly spoken indeed, and may be compared to "apples of gold in pictures of silver."

10 mo., 12th. Just passed my 24th year. Surely I can, from my heart, adopt the language, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits?" They are truly more than I can number. May I more and more learn to appreciate the many privileges I enjoy, and return thanks to Him to whom alone all praise is due. God is indeed good to Israel, and waiteth long to be gracious, even to his rebellious children. "He willeth not the death of a sinner," but that all should return, repent, and live.

18th. How necessary, under the present discouraging state of things, that we have our minds stayed on the Lord, who only can lead us in the right way. He hath promised never to leave nor forsake those who put their trust in Him. His name is a strong tower whereunto the righteous flee and are safe. May He have us in His holy keeping; and may we be enabled to build upon the sure foundation—the Rock of Ages; then although the storms may beat ever so hard against our frail tabernacles, our building will stand, if founded on this rock.

10 mo., 30th. Our dear friends T. and E. Robson arrived. How pleasant to have the company of such friends; may I rightly prize the many privileges that I enjoy. These beloved friends have a prospect of visiting families here, which is a very arduous service indeed, and must be particularly trying under the present state of things. Surely the Great and Good Shepherd is still mindful of His flock. Sincerely do I hope, that the labors of these dedicated servants may be productive of much good, and tend to restore harmony and unity amongst us.

11 mo., 1st. Attended the funeral of our cousin Betsey Purinton. Dear E. Robson was

present, and delivered a very weighty and solemn communication, commencing with the language, "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" She spoke of such afflictions being hard for human nature to bear, but they were wisely ordered by Him, "who afflicteth not willingly." Such warnings should incite us all to greater diligence, to live so that we may be prepared to receive the awful summons that sooner or later awaits us all. It behooves us to consider our latter end. It was a peculiarly solemn season, and could but awaken serious reflections, for we know not, as dear E. remarked, how soon the pale-faced messenger may be sent to our doors. I believe such opportunities are often too soon forgotten. May we remember the language, "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation,"—"Be ye also ready."

First day Evening. An appointed meeting by E. Robson, for the young Friends. An instructive season; and I believe a deep impression was made on many minds; may it be lasting. We were exhorted to follow the voice of the true Shepherd, and not that of the stranger who would lead us into crooked paths. Great and solemn truths were declared amongst us. Oh, that they may have due place in our hearts.

11 mo. Had a precious family visit from our dear friends, T. and E. Robson, a season which I hope and trust will not soon be forgotten.

12 mo. Went to Charlestown to attend an appointed meeting by E. Robson's request. It was a good meeting. E. was powerfully engaged in testimony. We parted with our dear friends there, and it seemed like taking leave of very near kindred. They had been for some time guests of our family, and I believe we felt united together very closely. There is ever a sad feeling in parting with our friends, knowing that all things are uncertain here, and that we may not meet again. But that we may be prepared to meet in Heaven, is my sincere desire.

1 mo., 1840. Our Monthly Meeting at Salem was a trying time. I believe Satan desires to have us and sift us as wheat. There is cause for mourning at the appearance of things among us. How did I secretly crave, that the Lord would indeed arise for our deliverance from the hand of the enemy that he may not be permitted to lay us utterly waste. May He, our great and good Shepherd, in his mercy gather those who have in any measure forsaken the truth, and enable them to see wherein they have erred from the right

way; that we may, as a dear friend remarked, again be as one family, all living in love. "If we love not our brother whom we have seen, how shall we love God whom we have not seen." How necessary that we endeavor to cultivate that charity which is not easily provoked, which endureth all things. Then, indeed, we shall be preserved from saying or doing anything that will wound the tender feelings of any one.

Oh, that all clamor and evil speaking may be done away and harmony and unity restored, that we may be favored to dwell together in the unity of the spirit, which is the bond of peace.

1 mo., 28th, 1840. We are not to live unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us. May I bear this in mind, and endeavor to serve a faithful Creator. For His glory we are created; and, Oh, may I, with the mind, might and strength, serve Him. "We cannot serve God and mammon."

The state of her health being such as frequently to prevent her from attending meetings, she often referred to it as a privation; and when permitted to meet with her friends for

the purpose of Divine Worship, the solidity of her deportment evinced the weightiness of her spirit in her mental approaches to the throne of grace. Most deeply did she feel on these occasions her dependency, and that of herself she could do nothing. Under date of 4 mo., 5th, she writes:—

Having been indisposed for some time, I have been deprived of the privilege of going to meeting. This has been no small loss. I went, however, this morning, but did not receive that consolation I wished for. The mind was too much outward, and not centred on that which alone can make such seasons refreshing to us. When shall I get down to that which will enable me to worship my Heavenly Father in spirit and in truth? But I can do nothing of myself. May I not give out, but seek help and strength from Him who can enable us to worship aright. Poor dependent creatures we are! Oh, that He would work in me to will and to do of His own good pleasure. Frail we are indeed, and we need constantly to guard over our thoughts.

9 mo., 20th. Having been in delicate health

for some months, I was induced to try a milder climate, and therefore left home on the 16th for Philadelphia, with my dear father, sister L., and her children; intending to spend the winter with my dear sister here, and though the prospect of seeing many friends whom I dearly love seemed pleasant, it was trying to leave home, feeling week and feeble myself, and my dear mother being in delicate health, and knowing that it is uncertain whether we shall be permitted to meet again in this world, or whether an all-wise Providence may see meet to order it otherwise and remove us from this state of being while far separated; but all must be left to Him whose we are. Should my own health be again restored, and dear mother be raised from her bed of sickness, what cause of thankfulness will it be. We must try to submit to our Heavenly Father's will.

11 mo., 4th. On account of my health I do not think it prudent to attend meeting. I feel it a great privation; but if consistent with the Divine Will, I hope to be able ere long to meet with my friends in this capacity. I wish to be resigned to whatever trials and afflictions may be my allotted portion.

22d. I do sincerely desire that I may im-

prove from these seasons of trial, which no doubt are for a good purpose, but the lesson has not yet been learned which they are intended to teach. My heart is not yet fully subdued. When shall I be able to overcome the wicked one? May I earnestly seek for help and strength from Him who alone can give it, who knoweth our hearts, and all we stand in need of. He heareth the cry of His feeble little ones.

12 mo., 3d. Was able to get to meeting. What a favor. Much excellent counsel was imparted, and I hope it will not be lost.

3 mo., 2d, 1841. Spring has returned again; what a delightful season, and I am once more permitted to enjoy it. I am still a sojourner here a little longer, which is a favor I hardly dared to expect or look forward to a few months ago. How shall I sufficiently commemorate the goodness of Him who has done so much for us. I hope I may learn a useful lesson by what I have suffered, for it has been good for me that I have been afflicted. I hope I may not give way to repining at my lot, for these light afflictions, if rightly endured, will work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

3 mo., 16th. "The race is not to the swift nor

the battle to the strong." "They that fear God and work righteousness are accepted with Him." "So teach me to number my days that I may apply my heart unto wisdom."

I have been greatly comforted by having this language presented to my mind—"Fear thou not for I am with thee, be not dismayed, for I am thy God." He is faithful who hath promised and will He condescend to listen to such a poor frail creature as I am? Yes, He is long-suffering and of tender mercy. A sparrow falleth not to the ground without His notice. All praise is due to His great name.

After her return from Philadelphia, some months appear to have elapsed without any addition to what she had previously written. Under date of 12 mo., 1st, she writes:—

In our meeting for worship, I was enabled more than usual to have the mind turned inward, and to partake a little of that food which is refreshing to the soul, and which is of more value than all outward substance.

5th. "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him." Often of late has this language come

before my mind; much instruction may I derive from it. However an all-wise Providence may see meet often to try and prove His children in a way that seems hard to human nature, yet if our confidence and trust are in Him and Him alone, seeking for help patiently to endure all that is laid upon us, He will care for us, and in His own time bring us "into a wealthy place." Surely I can say, it is good for me that I have been afflicted, for I have, through unmerited mercy, been enabled to feel that the cup of suffering dispensed to me has been a blessing in disguise.

6 mo., 1844. The following remarks of E. F. Brady are so much in unison with my own feelings, I cannot help noting them down. "Taking a retrospective view of my life, it appears to have been one of continued blessings. When I consider the little returns I have ever made, and the very imperfect surrender of the heart to which I have attained, I feel discouraged and dismayed. May my feeble aspirations for a renewal of strength, rise with acceptance at the footstool of Divine Mercy."

On account of her continued ill-health, it was

thought best she should again spend the winter in Philadelphia, and under date of 1 mo., 1st, 1845, she writes:—

Another year has rolled away, and I am still a sojourner in this world. In taking a view of the past which has gone never to return, I find that many precious moments and hours have been spent in pursuits that cannot yield peace of mind. Too much of the time and attention has been engrossed with those things which cannot give to the mind real satisfaction in a time to come. I do hope I may be more ardently engaged to lay up treasures in Heaven where "neither moth nor rust doth corrupt."

2 mo., 23d. At meeting to-day. Dear I. Casson was there, and was very excellent and interesting in testimony. She remarked that it would not do to live on what we obtained yesterday for support, or on past experience. But like those formerly, who sought, morning by morning, for the manna, we must be engaged to seek, day by day, for that bread which can alone nourish up the soul unto everlasting life. It was to me very instructive, and I hope I may profit by it.

3 mo., 5th. "As the hart panteth after the

water-brooks so panteth my soul after thee, O God!" This language of the psalmist seems much on my mind, and I may, in some measure, apply it to myself; though so prone am I to give way to the evil imaginations of the heart, that I sometimes wonder I am ever favored to feel even so much as a desire after good.

3 mo., 17th. None but He who seeth in secret knoweth my silent breathings after that which will bring peace of mind in this world, and happiness in that which is to come. We must not give way to the fear of man. This prevents a full surrender of what is called for, and stands in the way of making those sacrifices which are required of us, and thus tends to weakness. I believe that He who shows us what is right and calls upon us to take up our cross, will carry us through all, as we simply yield obedience to Him and put our trust under the shadow of His wing. We must not deny Him before men.

1 mo., 1st, 1846. Another year has commenced, and surely the query arises, has any advancement been made in the all-important work of the soul's salvation, or in promoting the good in any way of my fellow creatures? Or, is there a putting off until to-morrow that which should be

done to-day? It is well to remember that "procrastination is the thief of time." Too prone am I to defer until a more "convenient season;" but this may never come. The present time only is ours. Uncertain is our stay in this world, and how watchful and careful we all ought to be to "pass our sojourning here in fear." These reflections ought to arouse us to increased diligence to make our calling and election sure.

5 mo., 17th. For several months past I have been mostly confined to the house on account of ill health; and I am aware of having given way at times to feelings of impatience and to discouragements, which I sensibly feel to be wrong. I crave to be preserved therefrom in future.

It is a serious thing to live in forgetfulness of God, from whom we receive all we enjoy. He can cast down or raise up, as He pleases. Although I feel that I am a disobedient child, yet I hope I may be enabled, through holy help, to overcome the wiles of the enemy; and should my Heavenly Father see meet early to remove me from this state of being, Oh, may I, through redeeming mercy, be permitted to enter one of those mansions where "the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest." The end crowns all.

6 mo. Although considerably reduced by sickness last month, yet I was so far restored as to get to Yearly Meeting, and I attended most of its sittings. My heart was indeed filled with thankfulness at this unexpected favor. I much enjoyed it and hoped it was a season not passed without some profit. I was at times made sensibly to feel that the Great and Good Shepherd was near, extending a measure of His love towards us, poor and unworthy as we are.

Ah, surely His holy presence was felt to be near, solemnizing our hearts, and causing the return of gratitude and praise to flow towards Him who hath been pleased to spare us a little longer, and has permitted us to meet again for the important purpose of transacting the affairs of the church. I feel a deep interest in everything that relates to the welfare of our Society; and the longer I live, the more I feel the necessity of maintaining our precious principles and testimonies. How sensibly have I felt the remarks of dear mothers in Israel on faithfulness even in the little required. Earnestly did I crave, that strength might be given to do all that is required at my hands. But the fear of man prevails with me, and I am afraid of doing that which is not

called for, so that I am aware of suffering loss by by not giving up to some little intimations of duty, perhaps only to express unity with some subject; but I shrink from appearing forward, and then my own weakness and inability to do the least thing to promote the cause of truth are felt. I believe it is not wilful disobedience on my part; and may I in future be enabled, through Holy help, to yield entirely to the requirements of truth, and be willing to be just what the Lord would have me to be. Delays are dangerous; times and seasons are not at our command; now is the accepted time.

The next winter she spent in Philadelphia, and it is instructive to reflect upon the increasing concern which she manifested that she might be found faithfully bearing her daily cross; for although she was very exemplary, and in her conduct and conversation gave good evidence of the work that was going on within, yet she did not cease striving for that full and perfect attainment, wherein everything is brought into conformity to the will of the Lord. Under date of 1 mo., 2d, 1847, she writes:—

Oh, that I could look back upon the past, with the satisfactory reflection of having spent the precious time in serving Him for whose glory we were created. But this world and its allurements have occupied far too great a portion of that time which is not given us to waste in idle pursuits, or in mere earthly enjoyments, but to be devoted to serving Him from whom we receive all that we have, who giveth us all things richly to enjoy. How bountifully hath He dispensed His blessings and favors upon me, a poor unworthy child, and what returns have been made to Him therefor. Oh, may my future life be dedicated more to His service. May I serve Him more as I ought. "So teach me, O Lord, to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wisdom."

1 mo., 8th. Spent the evening very pleasantly at ———, in company with our dear English Friends, ——— and ———. We were engaged for a while in social conversation, after which, silence prevailed. Surely, such seasons are not at our command. A precious solemnity was spread over us, and dear ——— was led to address us in a very impressive manner, reviving the language of the Psalmist: "The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His

works;" setting forth his abundant goodness to the children of men, and shewing the necessity of our coming unto Him and experiencing true repentance that we may live. If we will but obey Him, He will be merciful unto us, and forgive all our iniquities, and teach us the way of life and salvation. This can only be obtained through Him who is "the way, the truth and the life." His goodness fails not. He believed there were those present who would yet have to tell to others what the Lord had done for their souls. It was a season not soon to be forgotten. I could indeed respond to the language, "the Lord is good to all." For have I not often been made to partake of His goodness, and to feel that He is truly of long suffering and of tender mercy, even to the rebellious ones. He waiteth long to be gracious, and He willeth not the death of a sinner; but that all should return, repent and live.

1 mo., 18th. By giving way to the temptations of the evil one, how does weakness ensue? and there is a falling back instead of progressing in best things. Oh, may I watch unto prayer and endeavor to seek the one thing needful, that I may know an overcoming and cleave only to

that which is good. May I trust in the Lord Jehovah, in whom is everlasting strength.

2 mo., 10th. "I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction." While in silent meditation this morning, this language was presented to my mind. If it be His will, who ordereth all things aright, to dispense trials and afflictions, I have greatly desired that I may be resigned thereto, although poor human nature is prone to shrink from suffering. May I be willing to endure the rod when He appoints it. It is in mercy these things are ordered, to purify us from the dross and tin, and to make us fit vessels for His holy presence to dwell in. If the chastening rod is yet to be applied, may I be able to submit, in humble acquiescence, to the Lord's will. I need severe chastisements to bring me to a "closer walk with God." Oh, that they may have the effect for which they are designed, that my proud, stubborn heart may be subdued.

28th. Oh, that I may be concerned to improve the time while the day lasts, for it is declared that the night cometh wherein no man can work. May my sins, which are many, be forgiven me and all purged away by the cleansing operation

of the Holy Spirit, for nothing unclean or unholy can ever enter the Kingdom of Heaven. What encouragement there is to come to our blessed Saviour. He hath said, "him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out." Teach me thy way, O Lord! Lead me in a plain path.

3 mo., 1st. Surely, I am nothing, and I can do no good thing without the aid of Him who knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust.

10 mo., 1847. This evening I engaged in conversation with some young Friends, upon the importance of being faithful in what are termed little things and by some are considered of but little importance. But we are required to be faithful in the little, or we cannot be made rulers over more. Many say they do not see the necessity of these things, and take the liberty of judging those that do. But I think they must feel them to be great things, else why so hard to give them up? I believe that, in reality, it is shunning the cross. Our Saviour says, "he that taketh not his cross and followeth after me, is not worthy of me." Thus, if we ever expect to become the followers of a meek and crucified Saviour, we must deny ourselves the gratifications of

this vain world, take up our cross daily and follow Him. He has declared that His yoke is easy and His burden light. We ought not to plead excuse by saying we are too young to give up to such and such things. The Lord loveth an early sacrifice, and He calleth for the whole heart. But, if we continue to stifle the convictions of Divine Grace, and do not attend to that which leads in the straight and narrow way, how can we expect to be prepared for that solemn change which awaits us all. Oh, the danger of putting off until a more convenient season. The longer I live, the more do I feel the importance of leading a life of self-denial, and of endeavoring to follow our Holy Pattern. I feel the necessity of living in accordance with those principles and testimonies, which we, as a society, profess before the world. May I not be ashamed of our profession before men.

1 mo., 1848. Another year has commenced. May I begin earnestly to double my diligence, and, with full purpose of heart, try more faithfully to serve Him for whose glory we are created, not standing in fear of what others will say.

1 mo., 2d. This day I hoped I should go to meeting, but it will not be prudent for me to go

out. I must therefore be content with my lot, although I feel it to be a great privation. All our trials are dispensed for a wise purpose, by Him who knoweth what is best for us. I should try patiently to bear all He is pleased to appoint. I hope, if permitted to go to meeting again, to prize the privilege more than I have ever done, seriously considering the importance of thus assembling together.

9th. I have been comforted in reading some portions of Scripture, this morning, which are deeply instructive. May I profit from them. How different would be the state of things, if we were all more earnestly engaged to follow our great and holy Pattern, who is holy, just and good, who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth. When He was reviled, He reviled not again. What an example is left us by Him who suffered for us; but Oh, how far short do we come from following Him as we ought. He invites us to come unto Him. "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, who am meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

2 mo., 6th, 1848. I have been nearly a week

with my sister, and I much enjoy being here. How exceedingly kind are all my dear friends. I have everything done for my comfort, and more, by far, than I deserve. Surely I ought to be more grateful to the Giver of all we possess for His abundant goodness. I am not able to go to meeting, and I hope to spend the time profitably at home. I have been comforted in reading the Bible. I desire to seek for that which will tend to unite and mingle in feeling with those who are assembled for the purpose of performing Divine Worship.

8th. Awoke in the night with unusually comfortable feelings covering my mind. The power and goodness of Him who is above and over all was brought before me by this passage: "I will open rivers in high places and fountains in the midst of the valleys." This seemed to be presented, like a word of encouragement to press forward, and to trust in that arm which is able to sustain the poor traveller Zion-ward.

29th. The uncertainty of time has been forcibly impressed upon my mind the past week. A dear young friend has been borne to her long home, and I believe her Heavenly Father has received her into His Kingdom. On seeing her

remains consigned to the silent grave, and slowly lowered into the earth, how solemn were my feelings. I was led truly to realize that dust shall return unto dust. My heart was filled with sadness on reflecting upon my frail weak state, and knowing that I, too, ere long might be called hence, and it may be at an unexpected hour.

3 mo., 19th. I am naturally too much disturbed at trifling things. When shall I overcome my evil nature. May I endeavor to look unto Him who alone can redeem me therefrom. Help is laid upon One who is able to deliver all who come unto Him.

4 mo., 2d. I hoped to have got out to meeting to-day but am not able to go. The cold air keeps me much within doors about this time. I feel a wish that I may be well enough to attend meetings, but I must be patient and resigned to whatever seems best. These trials and disappointments are no doubt designed for my good, by an all-wise and merciful Providence. I do hope I may profit from all these dispensations. Our Heavenly Father doth not afflict willingly.

4 mo. Again disappointed in not being able to attend meeting. I ought not to make any

calculations for another day, and, ere this, should have learned better. Little do we, poor mortals, know what a day may bring forth. Our dear friend ——— was at meeting, and he called to see me. Very precious was the short time he sat with us. He imparted a few words of comfort and encouragement to me. He remarked that all trials and afflictions were ordered for good, of whatever nature they may be. He desired that if my Heavenly Father saw meet to restore me to health, I might be willing faithfully to do His will, that strength would be given me to endure all the trials and sufferings He might be pleased to dispense. All that He had done for me was well done, and I should yet praise Him on the banks of deliverance.

28th. To-day attended meeting the first time for five months. What a favor once more to meet with my dear friends in this way. My heart was filled with gratitude to the Great Giver of every good gift, that He was pleased so far to restore my health as to enable me to enjoy such a privilege. Secret petitions were raised that the Lord would enable me to get down into a reverent, silent waiting before Him. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." What

encouragement have we all, often to wait upon Him. "My soul, wait thou only upon God, for my expectation is from Him."

7 mo. I sometimes wonder why I have been raised up again from a bed of sickness, for I felt that probably this illness would terminate my life. Gratitude indeed fills my heart. None but He whose we are, could thus raise me up. I desired to be resigned to His will, whether He should see meet to remove me from this state of being, or to raise me up for a little while longer. Many are the tender ties that bind me here, and they are hard to give up; but I craved help of the Lord, that I might be enabled to yield all into His hands who only can prepare us for that change which awaits all. I hope my illness may be useful to me, that I may not forget the seasons passed during my sickness, and the covenants then made.

11 mo., 9th, 1848. "Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed, save me and I shall be saved." Under feelings of weakness and discouragement, I opened a little book, "Daily Food," to this text, and it was applicable, I thought, to my situation. It turned my heart unto Him who is able to heal all our diseases, if we come rightly to Him. How

excellent the verse that follows. May I in truth adopt it:—

"A guilty, weak and helpless worm,
On Thy kind arms I fall;
Be Thou my strength and righteousness,
My Jesus and my all!"

1 mo., 7th, 1849. Again, rather indisposed. Have not been down stairs to-day, but have passed the time quietly in my chamber, while others of the family have been at meeting, and I trust it has been a season of profit to me. I have been led seriously to reflect upon the tender mercy and long-suffering of a gracious and holy Redeemer, who has been near to a poor feeble child in many seasons of trial and affliction, and has made me truly to feel that He is good, and that His tender mercies are over all His works. What should we do without such a compassionate Saviour.

After supper this evening, dear father read several chapters in the Bible, after which we remained some time in silence. It was to me an instructive season. It seemed as if the presence of our Holy Head was spread over us to comfort us together, although not a word was spoken.

To me, at least, it was a time of refreshment. An increased desire arose in my mind, that we might all be engaged to "pass the time of our sojourning here in fear," as the day is hastening on apace, when we shall have to appear before the Judge of all, and give an account of our stewardship.

2 mo., 1850. Heard of the death of our dear valued friend, John Warren, to whom we have been nearly attached for many years; and although he is gone, his memory will ever be precious to us. "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace." How justly applicable is this to our dear departed friend. Truly his works of faith, and labors of love will long be remembered. Oh, that we may follow him as he followed Christ—that we may die the death of the righteous, and that our last end may be like his.

5 mo., 1850. A dream which I had one night seems so remarkably instructive, that I am induced to note it down, although I do not think the impression it has left upon my mind will ever be effaced; but that it will often be revived as an encouragement to me, "to press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

It appeared to me that I was at the foot of a beautiful green bank, at the top of which, was a large and spacious house, where all entered who were able to gain the summit of the hill or bank. I was trying very hard to get up, but as fast as I gained a few steps I seemed to fall back, and was often ready to give up, it looked like such a difficult task to perform. But there appeared to be some one present who constantly encouraged me not to give out, but to persevere, and I should gain the top. He would go before and show me how easy it would be, if I still kept trying. Several times he went up and requested me to follow him, but I did not succeed in reaching the top, until I had labored so hard that I was ready to give up all hope, when he again urged me to make another effort to follow him. I resolved to try once more, and, with great perseverance, I at last reached the desired spot; and while on my way to the house, which I saw not far off, I suddenly awoke with feelings of delight upon my mind, witnessed upon reaching the place to which I had so long been trying to arrive. This dream is indeed to me fraught with deep instruction. May it prove as a stimulus for me to toil on, and not to faint nor give out on my journey through this life, where, no doubt, I shall be often beset

with trials and difficulties which at times appear hard for human nature to struggle with.

11 mo., 30th, 1850. What hast thou that thou didst not receive; and what return hast thou made for all thy favors? This query suddenly came into my mind this morning when I arose; and a very important one it is. Indeed, what have I not received from my Heavenly Father, who is constantly showering down His blessings upon His poor, dependent child. I have received richly of the Lord's favors and mercies, and surely I have not rendered unto Him what I ought to have done for the privileges and benefits granted me. I fear that that which has been called for has not been fully surrendered. Oh, that I may not look so much outward, nor fear the reproaches of men, nor mind what this or that one will say.

12 mo., 12th. To-day I attended Monthly Meeting, which is a privilege I have not enjoyed for several months. Thankful did I feel in being able to meet again with my dear friends in a religious meeting. It appeared to me to be a favored time. Our dear friend ——— from Maine was there and was engaged in testimony; solemn truths were declared amongst us which I hope may sink deep into our hearts and tend to

comfort and encourage some of our drooping minds. Desires were expressed that we might be willing to give up our whole hearts to serve the Lord in the way that He requires, and not be putting off until a more convenient season. Oh, that we may be willing to suffer for the sake of Him who hath done so much for us. Is not the truth worth suffering for? Had I simply united with the conclusion of the meeting upon a subject which was before it, I should have felt more peaceful; but I did not do as I ought to have done, and instead of peace of mind reproof for disobedience followed. Faithfulness in little things is called for, and may I bear it in mind. The fear of appearing forward, too much prevails; suggestions of the evil one, I believe, where it is plainly manifest what is required.

12 mo. What comforting and encouraging language was presented to my mind last night after retiring to rest. I record it, as I love to recur to such seasons, when, at times, I feel low and destitute of anything good. "In the Lord's presence there is fulness of joy, and at His right hand are pleasures forevermore." "His ways are ways of pleasantness and all His paths are peace." Much instruction may we gain from such passages recorded in the Scriptures of truth.

1 mo., 1851. Another year has now commenced, and I am yet here, a sojourner in this world; but how much longer my life may be lengthened out, is known only to an all-wise Providence, who seeth the end from the beginning, and who can cut the thread of life when He pleases. Hardly have I expected to be spared, until this year, so feeble in health have I been. But my Heavenly Father has seen meet to spare me a little longer, and, in some measure, to grant an improvement in my health; and thankfulness for this unmerited favor hath filled my heart. May the covenants, made when on a bed of sickness, never be forgotten, and may I serve Him more faithfully than I have hitherto done. Oh, that all my trials and sufferings may work together for good.

5 mo., 1851. Although in a feeble state of health, I attended our Quarterly Meeting. Truly did I desire that it might prove a profitable season to me, and it was a time of deep and, I hope, lasting instruction. I felt poor and weak, and a fear prevailed that my late illness and the repeated visitations of this kind, had not had the effect for which they were designed, even that of weaning me from the vain and fleeting things of this world, and teaching me to place my affections on Heavenly things; and of producing a willing-

ness to surrender unto the Lord all that was called for. The covenants made when confined to my bed by sickness, and the earnest desires to be found faithful to the Lord's requirings, which then pervaded my mind, and the reproofs for disobedience, were all brought before me. The prayer of my heart was, that I might now be enabled to yield unto His will, that He would grant strength to His poor, unworthy child to know an overcoming in all things. While thus bowed in my soul before the Lord, He was pleased to put it into the hearts of His servants to speak the language of consolation to my tried mind. The very feelings and impressions which rested upon me, while lately confined to my bed of sickness, were alluded to by dear ———, and a state addressed which truly appeared to be mine. He spoke the whole truth and repeated this comforting language of Scripture which had been presented to me,—"The Lord's hand is not shortened that He cannot save, neither is His ear grown heavy that He cannot hear." I could hardly believe that one so unworthy as I felt myself to be, could thus be noticed and regarded by Him who knoweth the secrets of our hearts. Surely His tender mercies are over all His works. May I not cast away

my confidence, for the Lord is rich in mercy to all that call upon Him. J. P—— also very feelingly invited us to come unto the fountain of living waters. He spoke beautifully of that living stream, in which all who bathe and partake of its efficacy are made clean. Desires were raised within me, that the solemn truths that day declared might sink deep in every heart, and that it might prove a time of renewed favor, wherein we could thankfully acknowledge that the Lord had been in our midst, and return unto Him all the praise due unto His great name.

For those amongst us who are called upon to declare publicly the glad tidings of the Gospel, she continued to feel a strong regard and a near and tender sympathy, and, at times, she was led to encourage and strengthen the hands of the rightly exercised messengers. Her esteem for such as these and her concern for their encouragement, may be seen from the following extract from one of her letters, written after her return from Yearly Meeting, this year, to an intimate friend, in the station of a minister, who was there from a neighboring Yearly Meeting:—

"We left Newport at a quarter past two and had a comfortable journey home, where we arrived at seven o'clock, and found all our family as well as when we left, and hope to hear soon that you all reached your homes safely and are well. I thought of you seventh day and concluded you were at home, and shall be pleased to know that your dear friends were in usual health. Particularly was my mind with you on first day, at the time appointed for the funeral of dear E. C. A solemn season no doubt it was, when the last sad office was about to be performed of consigning to the silent grave the remains of a dear, valued friend. Truly she was a mother in Israel, and long will many of you feel her loss. Excepting the void which the removal of such occasions, we have no cause to mourn, though she was one whose bright example we should endeavor to follow, she being faithfully devoted to the service of her Divine Lord and Master. May we indeed be enabled more and more to yield our hearts in obedience to the will of our Heavenly Father in all things; this I do ardently desire for myself, though seeing and feeling so many discouragements, the poor mind is often ready to give out; but we can, of ourselves, do nothing. 'Help is laid upon one who is mighty.' How consoling is the assurance, when those to whom we have been so closely united in life are gone, that they have entered into everlasting rest. This, we fully believe, is the case with our beloved, aged friend, who, having done her day's work in the day time, has been gathered as a shock of corn fully ripe into the Heavenly garner. Oh, that we might all so live, as to be prepared to render up our account with joy, instead of sorrow. It is pleasant to think of the time we spent together last week, and it seemed to me our meetings were truly favored seasons, and an evidence was indeed given us that we were not forgotten. The great and good Shepherd was pleas-

ed to remember us, poor and unworthy as we are, and to hand forth, through those whom He has seen meet to call and qualify for His service, the language of comfort and encouragement to many a tried and desponding mind. Many, I doubt not, felt the truth of what was declared, and renewed desires were awakened in not a few, to serve the Lord more acceptably, in the way that He requires. May these labors of gospel love be truly blessed, and fruits yet appear to the praise of His great name who is worthy of all. Grateful indeed should we be to the Author of all good for the many favors bestowed upon us. Thou, my dear friend, art one to whom I feel closely united; but there is a feeling of sympathy in those who have near unity one with another, which is better felt than expressed. I hope thou carried no burthen away with thee; I think thou need not; and as thou endeavors to discharge thy duty faithfully thou wilt have thy reward. I have heard none express anything but entire satisfaction with thy visit. I believe thou experienced it to be as dear E. C. said to thee; and that He who required the service did indeed go before, enabling thee to 'divide the word aright' amongst us. May He still be thy guide and thy guard, and keep thee on every hand, is the sincere desire of thy poor, weak sister. Wilt thou remember me when drawn to approach Him in prayer, who is holy, just and good."

9 mo. Left home with my dear mother, who had just recovered from an illness of several weeks; she went to Philadelphia, and I went to Nine-Partners, hoping the journey would be beneficial to both; but contrary to our expectations, it proved otherwise. But He who saw meet to

cast us both down, was pleased to raise us up from our beds of sickness, for which my heart was filled with gratitude. We were favored to reach home the last of the 10th month. I believe that He who careth for the sparrows, condescended to be near and to support me during my illness, and I felt that He was indeed strength in weakness, and a present held in the needful time.

12 mo., 9th. I have been much affected on hearing of the sudden removal of my beloved aunt, H. Neal. I felt nearly attached to her, and now, being unwell, I am not able to be present at the interment. I hope to be favored to bear this trial with patience, and resign all into His hands who doeth all things well. Oh, that we may become more and more weaned from the things of this world. For, passing away, passing away, appears to be inscribed on all things. It applies to the young as well as to the old. "Prepare to meet thy God."

1 mo., 25th, 1852. For a long time I have been confined to the house, and for some weeks to my room. This has been a close trial to me, and I am aware that I have not been at all times sufficiently patient. Sometimes a nervous, irritable feeling has come over me, which it has been hard to overcome, although I have craved help

of Him who alone can help in time of need. I desire to trust to the Lord alone, who is of tender mercy. Very comforting was the language presented to my mind one night, after retiring to rest. Cast thy burden upon Him for He careth for thee. It indeed brought a calm over my troubled spirit.

3 mo., 1st. My parents are at meeting, and I am prevented from mingling with my friends for the solemn purpose of worshipping Him who is to be worshipped in spirit and in truth. I wish not to murmur, but to be resigned to whatever is best for me. It is in the ordering of infinite wisdom that I am thus afflicted. May these oft-repeated chastenings be the means of weaning me from all earthly things, and of placing the affections on those which will not perish with the using. I trust the time spent in this room of sickness has not been in vain, but that it has been a profitable season. Fervent have been my desires that the Lord would not leave me in my low estate, but that he would be near in every hour of trial, and strengthen me to bear all that He may see meet to dispense, and indeed make me submissive to my lot. Should I be restored to health once more, I crave that I may be made willing to serve Him faithfully; but if the thread

of my life should thus early be severed, Oh, may I witness a state of preparation to meet the pale messenger, and, above all, that through adorable mercy, an entrance may be granted me into that City which hath foundation, whose builder and maker is God. May the crown at last be obtained at the end of the race.

3 mo., 31st. Spent last evening at ———, in company with our friends ——— and ———, who sail to-day for England, on a religious visit. May their labors of love be blessed to those among whom their lot is cast, and may they be preserved on every hand, and be permitted to return with peaceful minds. It was a solemn, favored season, and will long be remembered by some. Much sympathy was expressed for those about to leave us. A Friend appeared in supplication for them and for all present. Desires were doubtless felt, as well as expressed, that they might be guided across the mighty ocean, and that He who sent them forth would go with them, and be their strength and support through all. The company assembled were affectionately addressed, and much excellent and comforting counsel imparted. I had long been confined to my home, and felt it a privilege to meet with my dear friends again.

4 mo., 4th. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Thus, it is not enough to know the Lord's will only, but we must do it. Ah, I believe he hath at times condescended to visit my soul, poor and unworthy as I am. I have indeed felt that he is good. His tender mercies are over all his works. He comforteth at seasons when I am low and depressed. "He knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust." I believe I can truly say, that he has afflicted in mercy, and I have faith to believe, that as I confide in Him, He will sustain me through my trials. I have at seasons been favored to feel, that one hour in His presence is better than a thousand elsewhere. Nothing belongs to me; all praise belongs to Him alone, who is worthy of all.

Newport, 6 mo., 1852. Once more am I permitted to attend our Yearly Meeting, and I feel that it is good to be here. The meetings I hope may be profitable seasons to many. I believe that our Holy Head has been pleased to be near, and that he has caused some of us to feel that we are not a forsaken people. There is much among us to be deplored. There are great departures in various ways from our testimonies, and the prospect is often discouraging. Some-

times the heart is almost ready to give out. Let us still trust in the Lord, who only can turn the hearts of the disobedient and gainsaying. Very different would it be, if we would only let Him come in and rule and reign over us. But "go thy way for this time," appears to be the language of many hearts, and the still, small voice is not heeded. There is too much conformity to this world. If there was a due and proper concern felt for the maintenance of our principles and testimonies, we should not be found following the vain fashions and customs of the world. Our blessed Saviour declared, "He that taketh not up his cross and followeth not after me, cannot be my disciple." We are not the cross-bearing people and the self-denying people that we ought to be. We have had "line upon line and precept upon precept," but what will it avail us if we do not take heed to the word preached. Close doctrine has been declared amongst us, and we need it. Oh, that we may profit by it, and that it may not be said of us as of a people formerly, "O Jerusalem! Jerusalem! thou that killest the prophets and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together,

even as a hen gathereth her brood under her wings, but ye would not!"

8 mo., 1852. "Teach me thy way, O Lord" is often the prayer of my heart. I desire to be taught of Him and to be shown clearly the right path to walk in. And although darkness at times seems to cover me as a cloud, yet I will trust in the Lord who alone can enable us to make straight steps to our feet. Ah! I am too easily drawn aside by the stratagems of the enemy. When shall I learn by what I suffer, not to listen to the voice of the deceiver? I have of late been sorely tried and tempted and have given way to nervous irritable feelings, on which account I have been greatly distressed and have been brought into mourning because I could not rise above it. I have craved help from the Lord, even from Him who remaineth to be the only true helper.

1 mo., 20th, 1853. This day I was able to be at our Quarterly Meeting, which I consider a great privilege. I hope it may tend to profit, and that I may more and more prize the favors granted me. In the meeting for business, I felt peace in giving up just to unite with the pros-
ct of a dear friend who is going on a visit of

gospel love. I shrunk from it, from a feeling of my utter unworthiness to speak a word, particularly on such a subject, in our meetings. I have many times suffered from disobedience, and dared not, at this time, withhold a sentiment.

3 mo. "Every heart knoweth its own bitterness." When our minds are in doubt and perplexity, let us flee unto Him who seeth the secrets of all hearts, and implore His aid. A sparrow falleth not to the ground without His notice.

6 mo., 25th, 1853. Had the company of —— and companions to tea, which is very pleasant to us. I have felt nearly united to them for the truth's sake, from the time I first met with them. They have left their homes and made great sacrifices to perform this visit of gospel love. We should ever feel a sympathy for such. May we receive them as the Lord's messengers. He requires the service at their hands, and may we all be benefited by it and thank Him for the favors extended to us. I think ——— is a sweet-spirited woman. How precious is the feeling of unity when it flows freely in the fellowship of the gospel. It is sweet indeed. There is a feeling beyond words, which binds soul to soul. Sorrowful indeed it is, that in some places the ene-

my has got in, and the love and unity, which once existed, are wanting. Oh, that such breaches may be healed.

26th. Dear ——— was favored, I thought, to declare the truth amongst us. Both morning and evening she was largely engaged in testimony. It was, I trust, a season of comfort and encouragement to many. What surely can be done for us that has not already been done. When shall we learn to be wise for ourselves; to choose the Lord for our portion and the God of Jacob for the lot of our inheritance? The poor servants will be clear and will have their reward for their faithful labors. We shall have to give an account to Him from whom we receive all our blessings, for the right improvement of these privileges. I have greatly feared that if we do not take more heed to what we hear, the feet of the messengers will be turned another way.

7 mo., 10th, 1853. First day. Our meetings this day have been truly solemn ones to me. My spirit was indeed bowed within me before Him in whose presence we were assembled. Ah! I felt my feebleness, my utter unworthiness and inability, to do any good thing, even to think a good thought, without His help. How did I crave

His assistance that all my wandering thoughts might be dispelled, and that I might be brought into a silent, waiting frame of mind before the Lord. I did feel that He was graciously pleased to draw near and to humble my heart as in His sight. Thankfulness was truly felt to flow for the unmerited favors extended to me, a poor, erring child.

Second day, the 11th. Had the company of M. S. W. and companions to tea and to lodge. I enjoy the company of dear friends who are willing to come and see us; indeed, I feel love to flow towards all everywhere, but particularly do I feel a near unity and sympathy with those who make such sacrifices and are made willing to leave those who are nearest and dearest to them on earth, to spend and be spent for the blessed cause of truth. May their labors indeed be blessed to us; and may we yet see fruits appearing to the honor of Him whose is the cause, and who only can raise up and qualify for His work and service in the church.

13th. At our Monthly Meeting at Salem, we had the acceptable company of ——— and ———. The latter did not appear to relieve her mind, although time was given her. But a

burden evidently rested upon her spirit. I am sorry that any of the Lord's messengers should leave us without relief, and carry away what belongs to others, either by way of reproof, counsel or encouragement. Our dear friend ——— was excellent in testimony mostly addressed to our own members. I hope it will do us good; greater faithfulness is indeed wanting, and that true watchfulness, even unto prayer, a state much dwelt upon by our dear friend as being necessary for us to attain unto. To some, the language of comfort and encouragement was held out; and all were encouraged to put their trust and confidence in Him who is our Holy Head, and in Him alone, who can carry us through all the trials and conflicts we may meet with, and who has promised that to all the weary and heavy laden who come unto Him, He will give rest, if they will but take His yoke upon them and learn of Him. He closed with a parting salutation which was very solemn. It was to me a season to be remembered. May we be truly stimulated with renewed courage to press forward, though deep trials often await us, and we feel ready to faint and give out at the many things that we see within and without; and on looking at our socie-

ty it does seem as if we knew not where to look for helpers and examples, there is so much departing from our excellent testimonies, particularly amongst our young people. I ardently hope we may see brighter days—that those, who now seem so far off, may yet see the beauty there is in holiness, and come and unite with those who feel desirous they may walk in the truth, and not be ashamed of our christian testimonies. Oh, that Zion may yet arise again in her ancient beauty, and may we look to the Lord alone for help, who, as we do confide in Him, will be a present helper in the needful time.

18th. I awoke this morning with this language addressed to my mental ear:—"Commit thy cause unto the Lord; He shall direct thy paths." It was truly instructive, and afforded a little encouragement to my drooping spirit. Burdened and at times sorely tried, have I felt lately, when none but He who seeth in secret knew the fervent breathings of my soul. Some have at times truly sympathized with me, when they knew not my trials and sad thoughts. We are often permitted to feel one for another, when nothing which we say makes manifest the troubles of our heart. A sweet unison of feeling

will at times flow as from vessel to vessel. It is comforting and precious to witness it. There are those who at times are enabled to speak a word of comfort to the tried mind. He who is pleased to qualify his servants and hand-maidens, and send them forth to preach the glad tidings of the Gospel, does at times give them to feel for those who are afflicted. It is an evidence of Divine direction and of a right qualification for the work, when we do know our states spoken to, and sometimes in a remarkable manner, to our encouragement. But, Oh, I desire to commit my cause unto Him, who is all-sufficient and will lead in a safe path. An arm of flesh will not do to put our trust in.

After the date last mentioned, it does not appear that she made any further memoranda.

In a letter to an intimate friend, dated 3 mo., 1854, after informing of the decease of a young acquaintance, she remarked in allusion to it:—

"Her friends have the comforting assurance, that, He who gave, hath taken her to Himself, and granted her an inheritance in one of his Heavenly mansions where all is rest and peace. May it not truly be said, that, to *her*, to die is gain. I feel much for this bereaved family; long indeed will

they miss the company of the loved one, who has been thus suddenly removed from the family circle. Little did we think when we visited her last summer, that she would so soon be called to bid adieu to all earthly scenes. 'Truly our life is but a vapor, that appeareth for a little time and then vanishes away.'"

In another letter, bearing date 8 mo., 31st, concerning the severe illness of a little niece who was very dear to her, she writes:

"Many are the anxious feelings respecting the darling child —and her dear parents sensibly feel how closely she is entwined around their hearts, and are very sad with the prospect of being soon called to part with her. We all feel it, but none so keenly as the parents. Her Heavenly Father may see meet to spare her a little longer. Should He order it otherwise and nip the tender bud in its loveliness and innocence, may we all be resigned to His will, who knoweth what is best."

Near the close of the same letter, she adds:—

"Since writing the above we have been called to pass through a solemn scene. Our darling little one is no more. She is released from her sufferings—taken early to a better and happier world to rest forevermore in the arms of her Saviour, who hath said, 'Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.' How comforting is the reflection! We all miss the dear one

from the family circle, and, although her parents keenly feel their bereavement, I believe they are endeavoring to bear this trial with resignation, and are, in a measure, prepared to adopt this language, 'not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done.'"

The last letter she wrote was dated 1 mo., 22, 1855. In allusion to the state of her health, on account of which she was mostly confined to the house, she says:

"I have no wish to complain, not doubting but it is all right that I am thus afflicted. I hope I may endeavor patiently to submit to all the Lord in mercy sees meet to lay upon me. I feel that I come far short of that true resignation to His will which I sincerely desire. I may yet be restored to my usual degree of health; however, *that* I must leave. I can truly say, I am not one who ever counted 'on long years of pleasure here.' I have gradually gained strength for two weeks past, and am able, a part of the time, to take my meals with the family, and have rode out once, for which and other favors I feel truly grateful."

During the last winter of her life, her health and strength gradually failed, and she was confined mostly to the house. Many were her conflicts, yet her patience and her faith never forsook her; and although it was frequently her lot to dwell under the cloud, when the comforter for

a while would veil his face, yet in His own time He would appear to her joy and consolation, giving her renewed evidence of the continuance of His love, and clothing her spirit with quietness and resignation. On one occasion she remarked, "how calm and quiet I feel; I fear I am too much so." For several weeks previous to her decease, her mouth and throat being very sore, it was difficult for her to converse, and she could not take such nourishment as she needed; but she was never heard to complain. She often expressed a desire that she might bear with patience whatever afflictions might, in her Heavenly Father's wisdom, be dispensed unto her, and she manifested her thankfulness for the blessings with which she was surrounded. The evening before her decease, after enduring a time of very severe bodily suffering, she said, "I have no pain now, I am entirely relieved," and then added, "but I am failing." From this time, although little that she expressed could be fully understood, yet, "love to all," was distinctly heard. On the morning of her death, she assured one of her sisters, that

there was nothing in her way, and when her power of utterance had partially failed, she was enabled audibly to exclaim "happy;" soon after which, she quietly and peacefully passed away, and, as we humbly trust, has joined the innumerable company who have come out of great tribulations, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

She departed this life on the morning of the 5th of 3d mo., 1855, aged 39 years.

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